

Moscow appeals to miners

MOSCOW (AP) — Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov appealed Sunday to strikers and miners in the Soviet Arctic to end a walkout he said endangers winter supplies. Strikers reported the coal industry minister, Michael L. Rabinov, had arrived in the area and said they expect to meet with him Monday. "The situation that has arisen at present in the coal industry, especially on the eve of winter... creates an inadmissible situation in ensuring vital supplies for our people, for the work of basic and other sectors of the national economy," Ryzhkov said. Workers in the largest mines of the Pechora basin in Komi region went on strike Oct. 25 to protest what they said are government delays in fulfilling promises made to end a national miners' walkout in July. They were joined last week by miners at 10 other mines, leaving only two mines working in the region. Miners say more than 15,000 of them are on strike, and the official media say the strike already has cost millions of rubles in lost production. Workers have advanced political demands, including the removal of language in the constitution that makes the Communist Party the leading force in society.

Jordan Times

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Deputies ratify Arab peace plan; reelect Husseini as speaker; Hoss resigns to make way for new government

Muawad elected Lebanese president

KLEIAT, Lebanon (Agencies) — Lebanese members of parliament elected a moderate as president of Lebanon Sunday and ratified an Arab peace plan to end 14 years of civil war.

The new president, Rene Muawad, 64, was sworn in immediately, ending an interregnum of more than a year.

The election was promptly denounced as illegal by General Michel Aoun, who heads an interim government in the Christian sector.

Parliament assembled at a rundown airbase in Syrian-controlled northern Lebanon after 30 deputies, needed to form a quorum, flew in from Paris.

Muawad, a Maronite Christian on good terms with both Christian and Muslim leaders, has backed Muslim demands for more power in the Christian-dominated political system — a root cause of the war.

The art-loving Muawad, was elected by unanimous vote in a second ballot with a mandate to form a national reconciliation government to end the civil war.

Syria was the first foreign country to react to Muawad's election. Its president, Hafez Al Assad,

Aoun rejected the election. "What happened in Kleiat is an unconstitutional act and is null and void," Aoun said in a statement issued from his command bunker at the presidential palace in Beirut's suburbs of Baabda.

"We are determined to thwart the conspiracy which is being hatched to eliminate what is left of Lebanon's sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

His rejection sharpened a split that developed within Christian ranks after parliament approved an Arab League-brokered peace accord in Saudi Arabia last month.

"I pledge to you and to the forthcoming government all our backing and support," the source, who could not be identified, quoted Aoun as saying.

In the first ballot, Muawad got 35 votes. Two other parliamentarians running for the top post, George Saadeh and Elias Hrawi, withdrew after the first ballot.

Saadeh, leader of the Falange party, got 16 votes and Hrawi, a businessman, received five. One parliamentarian abstained.

Muawad needed 49 votes, or two-thirds of parliament's surviving members, to win in the first ballot. A simple majority vote in the second round is sufficient.

"This election is a triumph for

Aoun's move illegal. Under Lebanon's constitution, only the president can dissolve parliament.

Acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss, who headed a civilian cabinet that competed for legitimacy with a military government under Aoun for the past 13 months, tendered his resignation to the new president to facilitate appointment of a new premier.

Then they unanimously ratified the peace accord to end the civil

war that was brokered by the Arab League at a special parliament meeting in Taif, Saudi Arabia, last month.

A suggestion by Saadeh and Deputy Butros Ghali that a supplementary document by the Arab League guaranteeing the accord also be voted was overruled. "This will be an inadmissible precedent," Husseini said.

Israel accepts U.S. plan but wants assurances PLO barred

'Guarantees'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel accepted Sunday a U.S.-formal for Palestinian-Israeli talks in Cairo if Washington met conditions barring the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) from the negotiations.

After nearly three hours of discussions, the inner cabinet voted 9-3 to accept U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's revised five-point proposal and to demand a list of assurances to accompany it.

"We have decided two things — to accept the five points and secondly, according to the proposal, to ask for side assurances," Vice-Premier Shimshon Peres told reporters.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens said: Baker, who put forward his formula in October to break a deadlock over Israel's plan for Palestinian elections, was ready "in principle" to give Israel the requested guarantees.

In the context that I have had with Secretary Baker this past month, we discussed the detailed wording of the five points that have been modified, plus additional assurances that Secretary Baker in principle is ready to give," Arens said.

Both Peres and Pazner said Israel wanted the U.S. assurances

in writing. Sunday's decision ends the wrangling over the Baker plan between Labour and the right-wing Likud bloc.

But it was certain to increase dissent in Shamir's Likud bloc, whose hardline members oppose the Baker proposal as a backdoor entry to peace talks for the PLO.

Housing Minister David Levy, a leader of the party's hardliners, said the vote would put Israel in a "very difficult situation."

Avi Pazner, a top aide to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, declined to give details of the assurances sought except to say "sum it up in one item: no negotiations with the PLO."

The next step will be to get the guarantees from the United States and then to start talking about the composition of the Palestinian delegation," Pazner said.

Both Peres and Pazner said

Israel wanted the U.S. assurances

to leave. The remainder left peacefully.

Troops seized posters that read "No Taxation Without Representation."

An army roadblock outside the nearby town of Bethlehem barred prominent Palestinian activist Faisal Al Husseini from approaching Beit Sahour to join the prayer. Journalists patrolled the streets but did not interfere with the service.

The soldiers did not use firearms but manhandled protesters refusing to return to their homes in obedience to orders issued from armoured personnel carriers driven through the streets.

About 100 Americans of the U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East came to town to take part in a Sunday prayer for peace at Beit Sahour's church.

The Israeli troops carried off some of the Americans who sat in one street defying the orders

to leave. The remainder left peacefully.

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Khartoum sends 2,000 employees home to Juba

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — The military regime has sent home 2,000 government employees to the partially besieged southern capital of Juba in an effort to pump life into the deserted war-torn south, a military official said Sunday.

This is the first such effort by the government and it was not immediately clear if the employees returned home willingly or were forced to do so.

More than 2 million southerners have fled their homes since the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) took up arms against the government in 1983.

Juba, 1,200 kilometres south of Khartoum and the capital of the southern region of Equatoria, is almost totally besieged by the rebels. Its inhabitants, many of

whom are displaced people who fled fighting in the countryside to the government-controlled city, depend mainly on relief food which is flown in from Khartoum or Nairobi, Kenya.

Brig. Dominik Cassiano, member of the 15-man ruling military council which came to power in a coup June 30, told the Sudanese News Agency (SUNA) that the food and security situation in Equatoria was "stable."

Cassiano said about 2,000 government employees had been returned to Juba, but he did not

specify when.

The Christian and animist rebels took up arms against the Muslim majority government in the north to demand more autonomy and administrative and economic reforms.

Meanwhile hundreds of Sudanese students demonstrated Saturday calling on the military government of General Omar Hassan Al Bashir to step down, eyewitnesses said.

The demonstration, at the Khartoum branch of Cairo University, coincided with the opening of a week-long seminar on peace prospects in Sudan.

A member of Bashir's 15-strong military junta, Colonel Mohammad Al Amin Khalifa, attended the opening session of the seminar.

According to the radio, monitored here, the engagement took place early last week, before peace talks opened in Rome between the Tigray People's Libera-

tion Front (TPLF) and Ethiopian government representatives.

The TPLF joined with a smaller group, the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement, earlier this year to form the new EPRDF.

Rebel groups have announced recently a series of victories over Ethiopian forces. They have given no indication they intend to scale down operations during the peace talks.

The Ethiopian government, which does not normally report rebel victories, has made no mention of the latest clash.

Peace talks

In Rome, Ethiopia's Marxist government met rebels from the northern province of Tigray Sunday to discuss an agenda for

full-scale peace negotiations.

The preliminary talks between the government and the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) opened Saturday night after a nine-hour delay caused by procedural disputes. The brief session heard opening speeches but did not negotiate.

TPLF sources said the movement would present an eight-point peace plan as a framework for the negotiations to end the long-running civil war in northern Ethiopia.

This document, which was adopted by a TPLF congress in March, calls for the formation of a broad-based provisional government in Ethiopia that would include representatives of all the country's political organisations.

Ethiopian rebels report killing 100 troops as peace talks begin

NAIROBI (R) — Rebel forces killed 100 government troops in northern Ethiopia early last week in an effort to "raise their peace flag" in Mehal Meda province, the clandestine Voice of the Tigray Revolution radio reported.

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

3 caught tampering with graves

KUWAIT (R) — Three Muslim fundamentalists have been taken to court for carrying dirt away from grave mounds in a Kuwaiti cemetery, a local newspaper said Sunday. Al Watan reported that the three, a Kuwaiti, a Saudi Arabian and a man said to be stateless, believed the teachings of the Prophet Mohammad barred tombs from being higher than the surrounding ground. The paper quoted court officials as saying the three entered the cemetery in the Sulaiabat suburb west of Kuwait city on Oct. 5 and brought in a small pick-up truck to carry dirt away from several graves.

Earthquake jolts east Iran

NICOSIA (R) — An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the open-ended Richter Scale jolted Kerman in East Iran early Sunday, Iranian News Agency (IRNA) said. There was no word on any casualties or damage after the quake struck at 12:19 a.m. (2049 GMT Saturday) with an epicentre 800 kilometres south east of Tehran, said IRNA monitored in Cyprus. A quake measuring 4.5 on the scale jolted Tehran on Oct. 26 but there were no reports of damage. The epicentre of that quake was in mountains north east of the Iranian capital.

Iranian minister to visit Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati will arrive in Algeria Monday to discuss Lebanon and the stalled Gulf peace talks, an Algerian Foreign Ministry official said Sunday. Algerian Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozai is a member of the Arab League Committee mandated to try to end 14 years of civil war in Lebanon. Velayati last visited Algiers in 1982.

U.S. in secret talks with Libya

LONDON (R) — U.S. officials are holding secret talks with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, the Sunday Correspondent newspaper said. The correspondent, quoting senior U.S. diplomatic sources, said in a front page story the talks began after Libya signalled through the Belgian and Dutch governments it wanted to improve relations. The U.S. Air Force bombed the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi in 1986, accusing Qadhafi of backing a bomb attack on a West Berlin discotheque used by U.S. soldiers. Since then there have been several skirmishes between U.S. and Libyan Armed Forces near the Libyan coast. The correspondent said the U.S. had demanded that Libya end what it calls Qadhafi's "funding of terrorist groups" and its attempts to produce chemical weapons. Qadhafi insists he has never backed terrorism. The newspaper said Washington had also approached Syrian President Hafiz Al Assad to demand that he expel the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) guerrilla group, suspected by some Western intelligence officials of bombing a U.S. Jumbo Jet over Scotland in December.

Tremors shake Algiers days after quake

PARIS (R) — Several Earth tremors shook Algiers and the coastal town of Tipaza Saturday, six days after a major earthquake killed 24 people. The Algerian News Agency (APS), monitored in Paris, said a shock measuring 4.3 on the Richter Scale hit the area in the evening. Smaller tremors were felt in the morning. It was not immediately known if anyone was hurt. More than 450 people injured and hundreds made homeless when a quake measuring six points on the Richter Scale hit the west of Algiers and Tipaza last Sunday.

Morocco celebrates 'green march' confident of victory

RABAT (R) — Moroccans mark the anniversary of their "green march" into the bleak Western Sahara Monday — a people's protest that sparked a war but secured the throne of a threatened king.

Towns and villages throughout Morocco are set for the annual celebrations, 14 years after King Hassan sent 350,000 Koran-waving unarmed citizens marching into what was then a Spanish colony to recover the "lost Saharan provinces."

It was a bold move. The war which followed with Polisario guerrillas seeking independence united the country and secured King Hassan's throne after a period of internal feuding and two failed coup attempts by elements of the military.

"We will give our blood for our Sahara, us Moroccans, all of us," said Mokhtar Guendouz, a taxi-driver, in a comment typical of many ordinary Moroccans.

This year, however, there is an extra spring in the steps of the Moroccans who are more than even convinced the war is as good as won and Polisario as good as finished.

They say a third major Polisario attack would change everything by posing the question of "who is arming them?"

Algeria, for years Polisario's main diplomatic and military supporter, is now committed to rapprochement with Morocco.

Since restoring diplomatic ties in May 1988, both countries helped set up the Arab Maghreb Union — with Tunisia, Mauritania and Libya.

Moroccans say the drift to

inclusion a colonel, were killed.

In the two attacks, the guerrillas claimed more than 200 Moroccans were killed while Morocco gave a similar figure for Polisario casualties.

"Even Morocco cannot stand alone, it needs the Maghreb," he said.

Libya supported Polisario in the early days when Muammar Qadhafi saw the conflict as a struggle against colonialism, but aid was cut off in 1984. Qadhafi's belief in one Arab nation prevented support for a new mini-state.

Since administrative control of Western Sahara was ceded to Morocco by Spain under the Madrid accords of Nov. 14, 1975, King Hassan's troops have won control of four-fifths of the territory half the size of France.

Polisario now operates in the thin band of land it calls "liberated Sahara" between Moroccan defence lines and the Algerian and Mauritanian frontiers.

The western Sahara is a bleak and almost featureless strip of desert in the Western bulge of Africa, home to centuries to small nomadic tribes who roamed over vast areas of modern-day Mali, Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania and Niger in search of pasture for their camel herds and flocks of goats.

Some paid allegiance to the sultans of Morocco, the basis of the king's claim to the territory.

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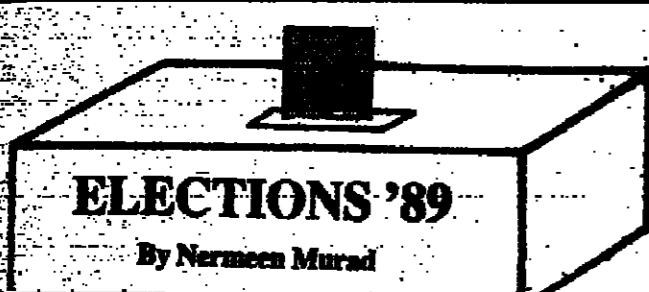
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THE PUBLIC Security Department has ordered 30,000 lunch meals from a local restaurant for security personnel on duty on election day. We are glad that so many officers and policemen will be on duty that day to protect the proceedings of the elections. According to a security source, more than 16,000 policemen will be on duty all over the Kingdom Nov. 8.

THE MINISTER of information has announced that all forms of election campaigning will have to come to an end Tuesday in accordance with Election Law. The press thanks the minister for giving reporters a day off before the busiest day of work in more than 22 years.

☆ ☆ ☆

A CANDIDATE who wanted to clear his name from accusations of corruption levelled by the public read out a long list of charges against former public officials and said he could prove the charges. What he did not count on was that the daughter of one of the "accused" was attending the debate and vented her anger at the accusations levelled at her father by screaming at the candidate.

☆ ☆ ☆

A CANDIDATE who has until now enjoyed the respect (or thought he did) of the public, went overboard in expecting this respect to continue. He responded a question put to him and was asked to leave a house in which a clan meeting was held in his honour. I guess he lost their votes.

☆ ☆ ☆

A CHRISTIAN candidate in Madaba has made a bet with a friend that he was going to win a seat in Parliament with a margin of at least 5,000 votes against his closest rival. The friend bet him he would not be the first, the second nor the third winner in his district and staked JD 1 against a round-trip ticket to West Germany. The question is: will the candidate get a ticket to the Parliament House.

Weapons banned during elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) issued a reminder Sunday that carrying weapons is forbidden in the run-up to Wednesday's general election.

A PSD spokesman, quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said police had orders to confiscate the weapon of anyone found violating the ban, originally issued by Interior Minister Salem Masa'beh.

Culture and Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali said candidates must stop all kinds of election campaigns by midnight Tuesday, the end of the official campaigning period, according to article 60 of the 1986 election law.

Petra reported.

Voting starts at 7 a.m. Wednesday.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

JEN-ALI CONGRATULATED: His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a congratulatory cable to Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali on the second anniversary of assuming presidency. He wished the Tunisian president continued good health and the Tunisian people every success and prosperity. (Petra)

FARMERS' ISSUES: Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Sunday received a delegation representing Jordan Valley farmers and discussed with them issues of concern. Sharif Zeid stressed the government's interest in improving and developing the levels of services provided to the Jordan Valley farmers. The meeting was attended by the minister of state for prime ministry affairs, minister of water and irrigation, the director general of the National Medical Institution, and director of the prime minister's office. (Petra)

U.S. TEAM BRIEFED: A team of educationalists from American educational institutions and organisations had a meeting here Sunday with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, who explained Jordan's political stand and His Majesty King Hussein's constant efforts to bring about peace in the region. Qasem said Jordan was attaching great hope to the proposed international Middle East peace conference, which is deemed the best possible forum for reaching a settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict. Such conference, Qasem said, is bound to provide a solution for the Palestine problem, safeguarding the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland. (Petra)

SCHWARZKOPF LEAVES: The commander of the U.S. Central Military Command, General Schwarzkopf, left Amman Sunday after a several-day visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb.

PRICE VIOLATORS FINED: The military governor Sunday imposed a military court's verdict sentencing Abd Al Salam Al-Sa'ad, Mohammad Atour, and Mahmoud Hussein Ali Hussam a fine of JD 200 each after finding them guilty of manipulating foodstuff prices.

HOLIDAY ANNOUNCED: All ministries, government departments and public institutions will observe a holiday on Tuesday, Nov. 14, on the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, according to an official communiqué issued by the Prime Ministry Sunday. (Petra)

Beit Sahour

(Continued from page 1)

In another development, unknown assailants stabbed and wounded two Israelis Sunday.

Elsewhere, a Palestinian died of wounds sustained Friday and seven Arabs were wounded in clashes, including a 15-year-old boy reporters saw shot by border police after a lengthy chase through the crowded market streets of Bethlehem.

The death of Mufid Jamil Huzoor, 19, brought to 610 the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli gunfire in the 22-month uprising.

The army said the youth, who was armed with a knife, was shot by soldiers in the West Bank town of Jenin after he ignored orders to stop. It said Huzoor was wanted for firebomb attacks and assaults against alleged Arab informants.

In Jerusalem's walled Old City, two youths stabbed Avraham Edel, 35, with a screwdriver.



King attends army anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday attended the 20th anniversary celebrations of the third Royal Armoured Division accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah and Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb. The celebrations included drills and exercises and an arms exhibition. Photo above shows the King kissing a small girl attending the celebrations.

'Bride of the North' attracts many suitors

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

IRBID — In this northern city of 740,000 people, which is known to the rest of the country simply as the "Bride of the North," the election fire flickers in a perturbed manner.

Although 80 per cent of the registered voters (109,196 people) have picked up their cards, indicating a high level of anticipated participation in the campaign period, according to article 60 of the 1986 election law, Petra reported.

On the other hand, those who went to Amman and did stay in touch with people in their districts will find that their continued links could very well pay off in the elections since they have proven that they are loyal sons."

"Candidates with similar programmes are competing for the same seat and splitting votes," said voter Ibrahim Ghareibeh. "By having five proclaimed Arab-nationalist candidates running for the one Christian seat in Irbid district, the votes are split and ones with outside chances take the seat," he said. "It is rather anarchistic."

Another issue that candidates with Arab-nationalist, leftist and Islamic tendencies seem perturbed about is what they see as interference in their election campaigns. Candidates complained that election rallies were being limited to three locations in the city of Irbid.

Muslim fundamentalist and "Islamist" candidates also complained that their rallies were interrupted by "unexplained, sudden" power failures.

Still another candidate, who has a history of leftist thought but who says he is running as an Arab nationalist, said store-owners had been warned not to display his posters on their windows.

Candidates who have been "bothered" by such acts say that they suspect that rival candidates of the same ideological school of thought rather than rival candidates from a different school are responsible for such "election tactics." However, none of them could produce any evidence to support their theory. Many candidates were quick to underline that there were no bad feelings between people belonging to different schools of political and religious thoughts.

"We want new blood to represent us," said a nominee who claims he is a "peoples" candidate. "The old ideologies are outdated. Natives of Irbid who now live in the capital and are out of touch with the constituency say they want to represent us in Parliament. But they have no idea about the needs of the people in the area."

"The old tribal traditions in Irbid and northern Jordan are strong, there seem to be cracks in the one-tribe-one-leader system as indicated by the multitude of candidates running from each clan. The Za'bis, Khasawnehs, Omaris, Momnans, Batanehs and Tals all have several candidates running in the same constituency."

Fivety-two per cent of the voters in Irbid district live in the city of Irbid; 48 per cent live in 58 villages and two large refugee camps. Thus the priorities of each constituency are likely to be very different.

"In the rural part of the district, tribalism and the Palestinian issue are important to the voters," said a candidate. "Naturally, candidates who have strong tribal affiliations or who have a good political or social record with the camp people will have an advantage over other candidates," said the candidate, who said he did not have either and was counting on support on ideological grounds in the city of Irbid.

Muslim fundamentalist and "Islamist" candidates also complained that their rallies were interrupted by "unexplained, sudden" power failures.

According to one voter who said he will vote for two leftists, two "establishment" candidates and one fundamentalist candidate, "the people of Irbid will vote for those that will serve them the most, regardless of his/her political leanings or tribal affiliations."

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According to one

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Lebanon needs an international boost

IN SPITE of all sincere efforts by Arab and international governments to accommodate General Michel Aoun and win him over to the side of the Taif Accord, he is maintaining his hostile stance on that internationally accepted agreement and engaged in questionable tactics to abort what was painstakingly negotiated and agreed upon. By rejecting the election of Rene Muawad as president by the Lebanese parliament, Aoun has reached the end of the line and exhausted the patience of all parties including his natural allies and supporters. His latest moves reflect his desperation and show that once he is cornered there is no limit to where he would go to frustrate the will of the international community, including that of his own people and supporters. In this sense, General Aoun has become a maverick working against international norms and standards. Still, not much can be done to change his obstinate views on what is best for Lebanon and the Lebanese people. The only sensible thing left to do was of course simply to ignore him and his declarations and to move on with the job of officially adopting the Taif Accord and electing a new Lebanese president through whom the people of Lebanon can unite.

As General Aoun's credentials as head of government are still contested by more than one side, any proclamation emanating from him will naturally be contested as well. The fact that General Aoun chose to supersede the decision of the parliament, which is, relatively speaking, the most legitimate representative of the Lebanese people still in existence, shows the general's utter contempt for the will of his own people. Such drastic steps by General Aoun will further isolate him in the regional as well as the international arenas which, in turn, undermines his authority, or whatever is left of it after the election of a new president Sunday.

What constitutes legitimacy in the final analysis is what the governments of the world decide to do. If the governments of the world bestow recognition on the new government as they seem posed to do, and the United Nations follows suit by adopting a formal decision by the U.N. Security Council accepting the decisions of the parliament, then there is nothing that General Aoun can do to stop the legal and political effects of such judgments. Recognition of governments is essentially a political act that acquires legal effect once that recognition becomes universal. Thus the road to salvation in Lebanon is to have the U.N. play its part immediately by extending recognition to the new president and his government.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i newspaper Sunday discussed Lebanon where the deputies are making ready for a meeting that would elect a new president for the country. Should a quorum be achieved and a meeting take place, a constitutional president would be elected to help enhance the state of peace and stability which prevailed in Lebanon since the Arab League mediated committee drew up a ceasefire last month, the paper noted. It said that regardless of any objections from the Christian leader Michel Aoun, the parliament deputies are determined to carry out an Arab League-sponsored plan and bring back peace to their country. Therefore, a parliament session which is to take place Sunday or Monday is bound to bring an end to the long and dark tunnel through which Lebanon had lived over the past 15 years of civil strife. Should the current efforts for peace fail, Lebanon will find itself facing another era of grim and dangerous future, the paper added. It said for this reason, the Lebanese people are now looking forward to the election of a president and a new stage of peaceful life after the long sufferings and destruction in their country.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily strongly attacks the Ethiopian government for restoring diplomatic relations with Israel. The move is seen as helping the regime in Addis Ababa to overcome numerous problems resulting from mis-administration, says Mahmoud Rimawi. The writer notes that the decision to restore ties with the Jewish state followed statements by Addis Ababa that it hoped to bolster its ties with the Arab World which, he points out, served as an unhand dealing on the part of the Ethiopian government. In return for this, the regime in Addis Ababa is certain to acquire assistance from the United States and Israel which stands to win from the step, the writer adds. He says that the world will now see a greater migration of Ethiopian Jews to Israel and a further collaboration between Tel Aviv and Addis Ababa at the expense of the Arab and African nations. But the writer wonders about the prospects of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) which has its headquarters in Addis Ababa in view of the fact that the African nations are rallying to confront the Ethiopian regime which is currently stepping up its nuclear collaboration with Israel.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented on the situation in Lebanon where it said only one person, Michel Aoun is confronting the majority and the will of the Arab and international community. The paper said the Lebanese parliament deputies meeting should take place and a president should be elected to bring an end to the civil strife in Lebanon. The success of the parliament deputies in reaching consensus on a national charter ought not to be marred now by the Christian leader whose ideas can no longer be feasible. The paper urged all the parties in Lebanon and Aoun himself to give peace a chance, and to pave the way for stability and security in Lebanon.

Weekly Political Pulse

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

Political parties — conspicuous by sheer absence

THE STILL exaggerated number of candidates competing for the Nov. 8 parliamentary elections and the proliferation of slogans and campaign platforms decorating these elections suggest that future elections would continue to lack coherence and organisation if political parties are not formed. As things stand now for this year's elections, voters have been confused by the utter lack of organisation that reigned supreme as a direct consequence of just too many candidates with an even greater number of banners festooning the street of the country. The only effective and operational way then to rectify the errors of the Nov. 8 elections is to introduce a limited number of political parties along the lines that could be articulated in the projected National Pact. Needless to say, there are hardly any viable parliamentary system in the whole world without political parties that draw heavily on their own respective national experiences, norms and traditions.

Such political tools would go a long way to render political platforms more coherent by injecting discipline and responsibility in their formulation. Moreover, the number of contestants in any given elections would also remain within the realm of reason as each political party would exercise direct control on the number of candidates who run on their own separate slates. And what is even more relevant would be the control that such parties could exercise over the slogans or political platforms that are presented to the electorates.

As things stand now, there is no way to determine the credibility of the various political platforms which different candidates have exposed. As at least some of the contestants can be presumed to have professed flamboyant slogans for only public consumption, without the benefit of some form of guardianship that can be exercised through disciplined and organised political parties, such exaggerated claims and promises would continue unabated. In other words, had we in Jordan two political parties during this year's national elections, many positive features could have been realised: First, the number of candidates could have been reduced to reasonable proportions. Secondly, the political platforms of the various candidates could have been more coherent and realistic. Thirdly, the contents of the political platforms could have been toned down to meaningful proportions as well. So, without the control that such political parties could have performed during this year's elections there was no limit to what contestants would go to propagate their slogans. Likewise there was no limit to the number of those seeking public confidence and trust. The end result, of course, is elections lacking control, discipline and coherence.

But all is not lost as this year's parliamentary elections can still serve as a big lesson on which all future elections can draw heavily. After all, the continuing process of democratisation in Jordan is a perpetual learning process. The Kingdom cannot be

expected to master the art of elections in one giant leap but rather through the trials and tribulations of many imperfect elections. If this year's elections can teach us that much more and educate us also that much more, then it is a very positive step on the path towards wiser and more viable elections in the future. Thus as I read the situation connected with this year's parliamentary elections, the biggest drawback was the absence of, let's say, two giant political parties under whose wings would lie and operate all the smaller political parties and forces that have sought expression during this Nov. 8 elections.

Fortunately, the proposed National Pact is projected to deal with this very issue and hopefully will rectify this year's shortcomings. The elected parliamentarians in the Nov. 8 elections will of course be expected to debate this matter during the course of their deliberations on the much talked about National Pact.

Having gained or even suffered from the experiences of this year's experiment in electing them, they should be in an appropriate condition to spell out their thoughts on the contents of the National Pact and offer their words of wisdom on the framework of future political parties. If they succeed in such a mission they would have rendered the country and their constituencies a great deal of good. If they fail, they would fail not only their electorates but also the entire country.

Forgotten region becomes focus of Greek elections

By Dina Kyriakidou
Reuter

MONASTIRAKI, Greece — Women struggle to heat water with wood fires and men sit in the tiny coffee shop under a gas lamp in the shadow of the rugged mountains of central Greece.

They talk often about World War II and the bloody civil war which followed.

They speculate on when the winter snows will fall, cutting the village off again, and ask the rare visitor for a newspaper, "so difficult to get here."

"Our vote is as important as anyone's but we are forsaken by all," village mayor Panayotis Tolis told Reuters during a recent visit.

Monastiraki is some 60 kilometres north of Karpentiri, the capital of impoverished and isolated Evritania province, two hours' drive through thick green forests, mostly over dirt roads and shaky wooden bridges.

The personal commitment which Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of the centre-right New Democracy Party, has made to holding the province's single seat in parliament has thrown Evritania into the limelight.

His daughter, Dora Bakoyannis, is a candidate for the seat in Sunday's national election and holding it is vital to Mitsotakis' bid to increase his 145 seats in the 300-seat parliament into an absolute majority.

She has replaced her husband, slain New Democracy Deputy Pavlos Bakoyannis, who won his traditionally left-wing native region from the Socialists in June elections.

Bakoyannis, shot dead by the November 17 guerrilla group in Athens on September 26, had proposed a plan which he hoped would propel the region into the 20th century.

The plan included industrial, tourist and agricultural development as well as much needed roads, irrigation, sewerage and social services. It was intended to stop young people from leaving the area in search of work.

More than half of Evritania's voters live elsewhere. With none of the thriving tourist trade enjoyed by much of Greece, it offers only a few jobs in farming and forestry and the lowest income in the country.

Bakoyannis has pledged to pursue her husband's policies for the region she calls "the poorest place in Europe," and which even the Ottomans thought so remote that for 400 years they avoided collecting taxes here.

During the highly emotional campaign, she has observed a 40-day mourning period, making no speeches and refraining from visiting the remote villages still redolent of the 19th century.

"You might invest money in roads but if people don't have

work and a decent standard of living they'll just use the roads to get out," she has said.

Road building was a major project of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) which, during its eight years in power before its June election defeat, pumped European Community funds into the area.

Many people remain loyal to Pasok, led by former Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, because of its efforts to develop Evritania.

"Before the road was opened to our village by Pasok we walked or rode mules. We were forgotten," the Monastiraki mayor said.

Most people in Monastiraki said they would vote again for Pasok because of the new road, although they still lack jobs as well as telephones, electricity and sewers. Families rely on pensions and state subsidies to make ends meet.

"Under these conditions I wouldn't want my children to live here," Tolis said.

Bakoyannis's candidacy drew strong reactions from the Socialists who lost the seat despite allocating funds for roads, telephones and electricity in many villages and providing transport for school children.

"New Democracy is capitalising on Bakoyannis's number by naming Dora as a candidate. She doesn't even come from here," local Pasok member Stelios Kifissas said.

During World War II leftist partisans drove the occupying Nazis out of the mountains and declared the area "Free Greece." But the brutal civil war that followed Greece's liberation left bitter memories, Tolis said.

One villager, who said he was part of the British-backed Greek army to fight against Communist insurgents in the civil war, pledged his vote to New Democracy.

The plan included industrial, tourist and agricultural development as well as much needed roads, irrigation, sewerage and social services. It was intended to stop young people from leaving the area in search of work.

According to opinion polls New Democracy is ahead of Pasok in the national election campaign but is short of an absolute majority.

Regions such as Evritania, which send a single deputy to parliament, have become increasingly important to Mitsotakis as he fights to add six deputies to the 145 seats his conservative party won in June.

New Democracy won all five single seat constituencies from Pasok and must hold as many as possible to have any chance of winning an absolute majority.

The five seats, traditionally leftist, backed Pasok in its 1981 and 1985 landslide wins and the Socialists are going all out to win them back to increase their 125 deputies in parliament.

Rise of democracy, fall of tribalism?

By Mariam M. Shahin

AMMAN — Arabic coffee is served to elders gathered in large tents to approve one of them as their "face" to the world. Their strongest, wisest and often the wealthiest man among them thus becomes their tribal leader, — "sheikh al ashireh" — the traditional way tribal leaders have been chosen since time immemorial.

Although tribal tents were seen and the aroma of Arabic coffee was stronger all over Jordan for the last month, things are changing.

As Jordanians, young and old, head for the polls on Nov. 8, the paramount questions are: For whom will they vote and what single most important issue or loyalty will decide their vote? In a country known to be home to Arab tribes and their traditions, no-one knows to what degree the famous proverb "Me against my brother, my brother and I against my cousin, my cousin and I against our neighbour and my neighbour and I against the stranger," will hold true.

As 650 candidates vie for the 80 seats in the Lower House of Parliament, many people are wondering on what basis those who will actually vote from the 876,693 voters who have collected their voting cards.

Although tribalism and regionalism were seen as the main attractions of some candidates, the voters don't necessarily think so.

Since tribal affiliations have been the key to solving problems, may they be social, economic, educational or religious since time began in this ancient land, what is seen as cracks in tribal strength are viewed with dismay by many traditionalists.

"The young people think they know better than we do, that they can get by without their clan by reciting ideological poetry and thus winning the minds and hearts of the strange masses," said one traditional tribal leader in Irbid Governorate referring to candidates who refused to associate themselves along tribal lines. "Well, it won't work," he asserted.

Role of tribalism

What role is tribalism playing in the elections? How much have people's politics changed in Jordanian society over the decades? These questions were posed to candidates, tribal and non-tribal, in various parts of the Kingdom.

Many candidates felt that there was a possibility that some voters may vote only for one candidate so as to strengthen the chances of "his" or "her" candidate and weaken the rest. This has apparently been suggested in many electorate districts in the Kingdom. Voters with tribal, religious or ideological affiliations have stated their intentions to adopt this rather archaic voting policy although they are aware that "this is not the way it was meant to be," as one voter told the Jordan Times. Encouraged by candidates, some voters said they would vote for their relatives only or for a certain "chosen" candidate only "because I want him to have a better chance than the rest. Why should I divide the votes I have?"

"No one knows how many people will abstain from participating from the full election process in order to give their votes to the candidate of their choice, may he be traditional, fundamental, or progressive in outlook. This is one of the unknown elements in this election," says a candidate from Karak who withdrew his candidacy a week ago because too many people from his tribe were running.

What was once seen as a paramount factor in most parts of rural Jordan, tribal authority or traditional politics, as it is often called, is probably facing its toughest test to date.

In the north and south of Jordan, as well as the centre, almost every tribe, "of any consequence," has two or more candidates vying for votes from the same electorate. Traditionally, a clan, or "ashireh" as they are known, would come to an official or unofficial consensus about their tribal leader — the man who had all what it takes to represent what may be up to 20,000 or more members of the same tribe.

According to tribal candidates in the various districts most tribal voters will vote for only one of the candidates in their tribe. However, several voters told the Jordan Times that they will vote for "all four" or "all seven" of the candidates who belong to their clan. A consensus as to how tribal voting in these elections will take place therefore does not really exist, or so it seems.

In Irbid Governorate, a consensus among voters from its 58 villages has brought the fellahin or village candidate to the surface. Although the chosen nominee to parliament is almost guaranteed the village votes, many villagers who have encouraged other village candidates to run with an outside side hope that a member of their clan will also reach parliament.

An exception

An outstanding exception in this year's tribal election politics seem to be the Obeidat in the Beni Kanana and Ramtha district.

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In search of cosmic awareness

By Phillipa Neave

PARIS — Money, a nice house and a car, along with professional and social success, are what most people aspire to and work for. In Western and other industrialized nations, where the "rat race" toward material success is more intense than ever, a slow, quiet change is beginning to affect the thinking of a growing number of people.

Two decades ago, when the hippies of the 1960s sat cross-legged meditating in the lotus position of Hindu yoga and climbed the Himalayas in search of the Buddhist wisdom of Tibetan monks, they were dismissed as "fringe lunatics." But 10 years later, centres offering yoga, meditation classes and a host of other self-awareness techniques can be found in almost any large city or town. Here people take refuge from the frantic activity of modern society, seeking something more rewarding than the latest model of automobile or dishwasher.

People everywhere are talking of a "new rise in consciousness." The belief that man should be more in tune with the universe because man is part of the universe is expressed in diverse ways, from individual experi-

ences to worldwide demonstrations for peace and events to raise funds for famine and flood relief.

Such an event is the annual "Mind and Body Festival" in London, which attracts thousands.

The drive toward a better understanding of man's place in the cosmos and increasing awareness of spiritual values will, believers say, lead to a "New Age." This concept has led to a new wave of literature, study groups, lecture series and discussion groups around the world. Many of the largest publishing houses now offer "New Age" collections. Books such as Marilyn Ferguson's "The Aquarian Conspiracy" are now considered classics in the genre, read by supporters and sceptics alike.

Although mainstream New Age thinking seeks a balance between modern materialism and spiritual well-being, smaller groups are going even farther, rejecting the "rat race" altogether. One such group exists on the enchanting island of Bora-Bora in French Polynesia. Calling itself "Galacteus," it has about 100 members. Until recently the group has been little known, but its members have now begun to tour various capitals of the world to meet similar-minded groups

and share the results of over a decade of research.

Most of the "Galacteus" members are French. Alain de Beco, one of the original members of the group, recently returned to his native Paris, where he described the origins and aims of the movement: "We started out about 20 years ago as a group of friends in France and have since developed relations with people all over the world. We have built up a network of people who have been 'contacted' and are in touch with extra-terrestrial forces, energies and civilizations," said the 36-year-old.

Other forms of life

The people whom de Beco describes live in Switzerland, Spain, Brazil, Italy or France and have gone through what are known as "near death" or "out-of-body" experiences. "Studies have shown that in the United States alone there are some 8 million people who have lived through different stages of the experience," he added. "It is now seen as a bridge between science and tradition. Modern-day doctors and scientists are investigating "near death" experiences, while you find the same kind of descriptions in the ancient Tibetan "Book of the Dead."

Not everyone in the Galacteus community has lived through

"Regardless of religion, place or age, thousands of these accounts indicate that the world does not stop at the physical plane, but that there are other forms of life." De Beco and other Galacteus members have recently begun to help organize similar groups in Brazil, Mexico, Czechoslovakia and France, among other countries, to expand and coordinate their activities worldwide.

The founding father of Galacteus, the French Jean-Paul Appel Guery, continues to lead the community. His interest was aroused by a series of "out-of-body" experiences beginning at age 12. Guery, now 56, has published several books and has been working with computers for years, designing elaborate "inspirational" images of extra-terrestrial beings and places that he claims he either "visited" during his out-of-body experiences or "saw" through telepathy.

Guery's most famous book, "Timeless Journey," tells through beautiful illustrations the story of an astonishing "astral" voyage by an enlightened character (himself, one suspects) into other dimensions of time and space.

Though most people in the community come from a creative background — we have a lot of

such esoteric experiences, but all try to attain a certain level of physical and mental purity. Says de Beco: "We have chosen a lifestyle that seems to us more normal: we don't smoke, we don't drink alcohol, we don't take any drugs and we don't eat meat.

The reason why we are vegetarians is that we believe that the human digestive system, which has an abnormally long intestine for a mammal, is more akin to that of a herbivorous than that of a carnivorous mammal. But we don't make an absolute rule or dogma of any of these principles, we just live that way because we feel much better for it."

No luxury

The Pacific Ocean paradise of Bora-Bora, near Tahiti, with its crystal-clear waters and palm-fringed sandy beaches, is undoubtedly conducive to a stress-free life. But there is nothing luxurious about the way the Galacteus members live. They bought what was a wild, mosquito-infested piece of land by the ocean on the northern part of the island, and each member built a house with the materials that were locally available.

Though most people in the

community come from a creative background — we have a lot of

singers, dancers, writers and musicians — there are also people who are architects, carpenters, plumbers, and everyone helps everyone else," de Beco explained. By design, most of the houses built among the vegetation look futuristic: translucent domes, honeycomb globes, pyramids, flying saucers. De Beco's own house is a hexagonal globe suspended from a large, triangular frame; it doesn't touch the ground but sways gently with the wind and the movement of its occupants.

The group spends most of its time studying religions and philosophies as well as spiritual and extra-terrestrial life. "Most of us, like myself, were brought up in the West, where education is totally devoid of any of the things one can learn through yoga or the other traditions. We are attempting to draw knowledge from all of the world's religions and traditions. We see religions as branches of a tree: what we are looking for is the trunk of that tree. We also try to reconcile North and South, East and West, the past, the present and the future," de Beco said.

The head of the Boston Film and Video Foundation disavowed any connection with Coleman. Anne Marie Stein said the Coleman performance was the independent project of a foundation member, and the act was not funded by the public sources that support regular foundation work.

While she said she generally believes in letting people decide for themselves what they think is art, the foundation would not permit acts that could endanger the lives of people or involve cruelty to animals.

"There's a lot of concern about

use of animals in artistic acts and movies), and I think a lot of the industry is trying to be responsible," said Gus Thornton, head of the state Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The youngest in an upper-middle-class family of 11 children, he has strayed far from the path mapped out for him. After a traditional French education, he obtained a degree in architecture, a profession he never practised. In contrast, his twin sister, Anne, the mother of two children, is a highly paid executive in one of France's largest industrial conglomerates.

Her brother's priorities lie else-

where. "The important thing is to live that we are not only a physical body but also a body of energy and that this energy has centres in the body and circulates around it," he said. "This has been known for centuries in medicine — in acupuncture, for example. One can learn to control and use this energy, to transform negative energy into positive energy. Evil has only the power we give it; what we are trying to do is to achieve a mutation of energies toward the positive."

Although the Galacteus members were attracted to Polynesia by the climate and environment, they also sought an area where they could spend as little of their time as possible on the earthbound task of earning money to survive. On Bora-Bora, everyone in the community works. "We all have some sort of money-making occupation, but almost everyone is doing something creative. Some design fabrics and clothes, others jewellery, others put on music and dance shows for the tourists," de Beco explained. He helped to organise a company to market the community's products, and he also sells cultured black pearls, a new industry on the island that is highly appreciated by Japanese tourists.

De Beco stresses that the Galacteus group is far removed from any of the notorious "sects" in which members are forced to surrender their wealth and undergo brainwashing designed to alienate them from families and friends. "We are part of the world, we operate as a co-operative... and we pool our resources to pay for the printing of our materials and books, for computers and for producing videos and cassette tapes," he noted.

Still the group wants to focus mostly on what goes on beyond the physical plane. Says de Beco of his own experience: "I have seen UFOs (Unidentified Flying Objects) several times, sometimes I was looking out for them and expecting them, other times it was by chance. Also, I have developed a certain sensitivity and am able to receive telepathic messages. Almost everyone experiences telepathy at one time or another, with someone they love, for example, but there are ways to work on it."

"This is why physical purification is important to us, because the body is a sort of channel between heaven and earth, and by keeping ourselves pure, we can develop our senses, including what is known as the sixth sense."

Willpower is the important factor, he added. "We all have the spark in us, you have to work and persevere. Once you take that path, it is like a rebirth." De

Beco, along with many in New Age thinkers, believes that as more people "think positive" around the world, the more positive energy there will be to counter military threats. "This field of inspiration that illuminated the prophets of our great religions is a universal current, a field of energy that exists around us," he stressed, the shining light in his piercing blue eyes coming from far, far away — *World News Link*.

Are artists going too far?

By Allison J. Pugh
The Associated Press

BOSTON — Practitioners of shock art have danced barefoot on glass and bitten the heads off five animals. Now one of them faces possible arrest for lighting fireworks on his chest, again raising the question: How much is too much?

Shock art can appear in mild forms such as that practised by Joe Davis, who has shouted out his poetry while aides poured water on his head. It can be as severe as Chris Burden's being nailed to a Volkswagen or having someone shoot him.

The practice of defining new art forms by shocking people set off a national debate recently over public funding of an exhibit by photographer Robert Map-

plethora, which featured homosexual and sadomasochistic photographs.

"Some art might shock and disturb people, and that's certainly a valid thing for art to do," said Jeremy Alliger, executive director at Boston's Dance Umbrella, which recently featured a Japanese artist who danced barefoot on glass. "He is actually composing on the glass," said Alliger.

The limit, however, is "when people are placed without knowledge in a position of danger themselves," he said. "Whether that can be classified as art or not, it's inappropriate."

Joe Coleman may have provided the acid test in Boston. Alliger said Coleman crossed the line by endangering his audience. Coleman, who appeared be-

fore a small audience at the Boston film and video foundation, bit off the head and front legs of a white mouse and hugged one spectator after he poured a bucket of blood over himself. He also ignited fireworks on his chest and some burning shards landed in the audience.

"It was definitely a terrifying experience," said Vivica Gardner, 23, financial writer in Somerville. "We weren't protected and we were definitely in danger."

One of the smoldering pieces flew into the face of Robin Brown, who sat near Gardner in the audience. She said she brushed it off her cheek, and it then landed on her skirt and burned a hole the size of a dime.

"If it had landed on my eye, it definitely would have blinded me," said Brown, 23, an editor at

for a market research firm in Cambridge.

Fire officials said they would press to have charges filed in the case. Lighting fireworks inside is illegal, as is setting fires without a permit or a fire detail present, fire chief Howard Ferguson said.

Animal rights

"We are trying to find out how many things we can charge them with," said Ferguson, who admitted authorities had not yet determined whom they would charge.

They also can't find Coleman, who is based in New York, Ferguson said.

Animal rights activists, patrons and even some leaders of the arts community say Coleman went too far.

"I think that goes too far," she said of Coleman's performance.

Her brother's priorities lie else-

Time to work...

Time to relax.

On Time.

The business day, and another business trip that means pressure and making every minute count. So I just want to arrive on time and in good shape, ready for that vital meeting.

Royal Jordanian's new Business Class means a smooth, comfortable flight with excellent service, wide seats and traditional Jordanian hospitality.

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CASABLANCA • CHICAGO • COPENHAGEN • DAMASCUS • DELHI • DHAKA • DOHA • DUBAI • FRANKFURT • GENEVA • ISTANBUL • JEDDAH • KARACHI • KUALA LUMPUR • KUWAIT
LARNACA • LONDON • MADRID • MONTREAL • MOSCOW • NEW YORK • PARIS • RIYADH • ROME • SANAA • SINGAPORE • TRIPOLI • TUNIS • VIENNA

Jordanian government approves various loans, adopts measures to boost productivity, employment

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has agreed to the terms of a \$150 million loan from the World Bank, following months of talks in Amman and Washington.

"The loan will support the industrial and export sector and the balance of payments and will help to finance imports of capital goods, raw materials and basic commodities," Information Minister Nasouh Al Majali told reporters.

He said the cabinet endorsed the loan Saturday evening, but did not say when the agreement would be signed.

The money would also be used to help to implement a plan to increase Jordanian exports and investment, he added.

Finance Minister Basel Jarash has said Japan will lend Jordan a further \$150 million and West Germany \$17 million to support the World Bank programme.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Turkish inflation rate soars

ANKARA (R) — Consumer prices in Turkey soared by 7.6 per cent in October, the highest monthly rise since March 1988, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency quoted the state institute of statistics as saying. Prices rose fastest in the commercial capital Istanbul, home to seven million people, where the cost of living increased by 9.4 per cent during the month. Inflation is the chief reason for a collapse in popular support for the ruling Motherland Party, now backed by only about 15 per cent of voters. It will be the first major challenge of the prime minister who succeeds Turgut Ozal, elected president by parliament Oct. 31 in a ballot boycotted by opposition parties. The inflation rate in the year to the end of October rose to 73.3 per cent from 73.1 per cent a month earlier. The rate has hovered between 62 and 76 per cent since hitting a post-1981 high of 87.5 per cent in November 1988.

Big Spanish saving banks merge

BARCELONA (R) — Spain's biggest savings bank, Caja De Pensiones (La Caixa), and its rival Caja De Barcelona have agreed to merge and create the country's largest financial institution. The merged group will hold deposits of about 3,600 billion pesetas (\$30 billion) and have 2,000 branches, far outranking Banco Bilbao Vizcaya, Spain's largest clearing bank. Called La Caja De Pensiones Y De Barcelona, the new bank will concentrate its business in the prosperous northeastern region of Catalonia. None of Spain's largest commercial banks is Catalan in origin. The Socialist government of Felipe Gonzalez has encouraged mergers between financial institutions to face competition in the 1992 single European market.

Iraq penetrates more markets

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has won a contract to export electrical appliances to the Soviet Union and several Arab countries, the army newspaper Al Qadisa has said. It quoted the director-general of a state-owned organisation also called Al Qadisa as saying he recently agreed to supply Moscow with \$14.5 million worth of sparking plugs and transformers. He said his organisation had also won contracts to export \$5 million worth of transformers to Saudi Arabia and \$20 million worth of similar products to Egypt, Jordan, North Yemen, Libya and Oman.

India, Morocco resolve phosphate row

RABAT (R) — India has agreed to resume purchases of phosphoric acid from Morocco next month after an Arab country mediated to resolve a dispute, the Casablanca daily Al Bayane has said. The paper said the deal ended a row which broke out early this year over a contract for 500,000 tonnes of acid which India refused to buy. It did not identify the Arab mediator but said it had strong ties with New Delhi. An Indian embassy spokesman could not confirm that an agreement had been finalised but said negotiations had taken place. Exports by the state-owned phosphate industry, the mainstay of Morocco's economy, rose 40 per cent last year to \$1.3 billion with India accounting for \$440 million of the total. Al Bayane said sales would resume Dec. 1. Economic analysts estimate Morocco lost between \$400 and \$600 million in revenue when the last contract was suspended. The loss is expected to push Morocco's 1989 current account into deficit after a surplus of \$21 million last year.

Brazilian police arrest Nahas

SAO PAULO (R) — Financier Naji Nahas, whose financial dealing forced Brazil's stock exchange to close last June, has been arrested after spending nearly four months on the run, police said. Nahas sparked a crisis in Brazilian stock exchanges in June when he let cheques for the equivalent of \$29 million bounce. The scandal forced authorities to close the stock and options markets and led to the resignation of central bank president Elmo Camoes, whose son ran a brokerage house involved in the affair. The Lebanese-born Nahas, who was arrested in Sao Paulo state after being sought since July, faces charges of fraud and crimes against the economy.

Iran to pump gas through USSR

NICOSIA (R) — The Soviet Union has agreed in principle to let Iran pump natural gas through its territory for sale to Europe, Tassian radio reported. The agreement was announced after talks between a Soviet team and the Iranian finance ministry. The two sides would meet before the end of the year to work out volume of the gas to be moved and other details, the radio, monitored in Nicosia, said. Iran, which cut off natural gas exports to the Soviet Union after the 1979 Islamic revolution, has agreed to resume exports on April 1. Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said recently Iran was negotiating with Romania, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia on gas exports through the Soviet Union.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday November 4, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	100.7	101.7
U.S. dollar	630.0	636.0	200.00 (for 100)	107.5	109.5
Pound Sterling	987.9	997.8	Dutch guilder	301.7	304.8
Deutschmark	340.9	344.3	Swedish krona	97.8	98.6
Swiss franc	389.0	392.9	Italian lira (for 100)	46.4	46.9
			Belgian franc (for 10)	163.2	164.8

Peking forces entrepreneurs to purchase government bonds

PEKING (R) — China's new generation of private entrepreneurs, already threatened by a return to more orthodox communism, are being forced to buy government bonds to fund the country's huge budget deficit.

Restaurant owners, shopkeepers and stallholders say they are angry but powerless to object because of their precarious position in China's changing political scene.

"There's no escape. Everybody has to pay," complained one stallholder Sunday.

"I'll have to cough up next week — maybe 1,000 yuan (\$270)," he said, pointing out he was already badly hit by the slump in tourism which followed suppression of the student-led democracy movement in June.

"I didn't have any choice," said a shopkeeper. "They just said 'pay up.' Two hundred yuan (\$55). I'm lucky to make that in one month now."

The bonds mature after three years and bear an interest rate linked to inflation which was calculated by authorities to be a year-on-year 13 per cent in September.

Workers across China in the state sector are also finding their wages docked, sometimes with little explanation. A standard sum seems to be about 100 yuan (\$27), or up to a half a month's wages.

One worker said his unit,

forced to sell bonds among its workforce, later had to lend its own funds back to employees after they complained they couldn't afford to eat.

China's private entrepreneurs feel they are being squeezed for larger amounts because they have no political power to object.

Banned for much of the Maoist period until 1976, private business boomed under capitalist reforms pioneered by senior leader Deng Xiaoping over the last decade.

After reformist party leader Zhao Ziyang was ousted by hardliners in June, the political tide seemed to turn against the country's 14 million or so private businesses which were widely accused of tax evasion and exploitation of workers.

Perhaps reflecting continuing debate among the leadership, the official media blows hot and cold on the "getihu" or "individual households" as they are known in China.

"They have to buy the bonds. To refuse would be suicidal. You would be denounced as a bourgeois liberal and unpatriotic," a Western diplomat commented.

The government started issuing domestic bonds in the early 1980s and the quantity has risen steadily. This year Peking will raise an estimated 22.5 billion yuan (\$6.1 billion), more than double the original plan, the diplomat said.

living on the borderline and probably the highest number out work since the early 1950s.

Song did not give overall figures and China's official statistics are vague. Newspapers this year spoke of about 20 million urban jobless.

In addition, Song pointed out state enterprises had about one million "surplus workers" — employed staff who turn up at posts but have nothing to do.

In the countryside, reform over the last decade have boosted productivity but left 80 million surplus farmers looking for work, said Song.

"The unemployment problem has come to the forefront of a whole society. How to correct identify and effectively solve the problem poses a new challenge to the theory and practice of China's economic development," he said.

The official Economic Daily recently reported the bonds had met unexpected success with crowds rushing to buy them.

People were motivated by "their high degree of patriotic spirit" and the fact the bonds were index-linked. To meet demand, the authorities would soon print 5,000 yuan (\$1,350) bonds, the newspaper added.

One civil servant said some people, perhaps worried about their position after last May's mass protests, were buying more than their allocation to show political loyalty.

"It looks good if you volunteer to buy more," he said.

Meanwhile, China's unemployment rate is set to double this year, a senior economist warned, presenting a new challenge to a government struggling to reduce inflation through unpopular austerity measures.

The sword of Damocles hangs over the capitalist society is now hanging over the heads of the workers of new China," Song Xiaowu said, quoted by the China Daily.

China's jobless rate would probably reach four per cent by the end of this year, double the number out of work last February, Song, labour director of the China Enterprise Management Association, told a business conference.

"Our long-term aim is to cut exports of raw materials. We would like to freeze raw material exports at 1985 levels, but this depends on how successful exports of Soviet products are," he said.

Ivanov was speaking at the end of a two-day conference on how to improve the performance of Soviet exports, stagnating like the rest of the country's economy.

Soviet economists say the country has to boost exports of manufactured or processed goods to make up for the rising extraction costs of the country's immense material reserves and falling prices on world markets.

Last year, the Soviet Union — the world's largest supplier of crude oil — exported 205,200 tonnes of crude oil and related products, worth 19.7 billion rubles (\$31.5 billion).

In 1987 it exported less and earned more, while the figure for 1985 was 28 billion rubles (\$45 billion), although no details of the amount exported are available. The country is also a major exporter of iron ore and other minerals.

Vsevolod Volkov, head of the foreign ministry's research institute, said the country would not make any drastic changes in raw material supplies.

British electricity sell off likely to axe 30,000 jobs

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's plans to sell off Britain's state-owned electricity industry will lead to the loss of some 30,000 jobs, coalmine closures and price rises, an authoritative energy magazine has said.

The magazine Power in Europe said a secret government memorandum in its possession showed that electricity prices would rise by a quarter and that one-third of the country's deep coal mines would close.

If genuine, the memorandum could seriously undermine privatisation plans that are already under heavy fire and, according to most opinion polls, costing Thatcher support. But the Department of Energy would not confirm its authenticity.

Opposition Labour Party energy spokesman Tony Blair de-

nounced the planned privatisation, which would follow sell-offs of the gas and water industries and the telecommunications system.

"It is a truly staggering list of costs, charges and penalties to be levied on consumers and taxpayers," he said of the leaked document. "In a rational world, this should signify the death rattle of this deeply unpopular sale."

The sale of state-owned industries, encouraging the general population to buy shares, has been a cornerstone of Thatcher's economic philosophy. But Labour has attacked it as an expensive waste of national assets.

Beside the electricity industry, the railways are expected to be privatised over the next four years.

Economists back far-reaching rescue plan for Soviet Union

MOSCOW (R) — Senior Soviet economists appear set to push through a wide-ranging programme to revitalise the country's moribund economy, including ownership of private property and the introduction of a free-market system.

The so-called "radical-modern" programme is not as strong as that proposed by extreme radicals but leans more towards the radical-moderns, whose programme he described as a "reasonable combination" of the first two.

Its main aims are to encourage private enterprise by removing state controls, favouring private property ownership, breaking up state monopolies on industry and removing most restrictions on foreign trade.

An article carried by the official TASS news agency said the programme looked likely to win the day when senior advisers and economists meet in Moscow in a week's time for an unprecedented three-day conference on the country's financial state.

Industrial production has slumped since July, strikes are on the increase and the country is on its way to recording its first negative trade balance since 1976. Leaders from President Mikhail Gorbachev downwards admit the three-day meeting.

Turakov said of the radical-modern programme: "This choice is the most preferable — that is the conclusion of the scientists and economists who were invited to study the materials which will be discussed at the

country is in the midst of a major economic crisis.

The TASS article said those attending the meeting, which starts Nov. 13, could be categorised as conservatives, radicals and radical-moderns.

The article's author, S. Turakov, briefly sketched the ideas of the first two camps before coming down firmly in favour of the radical-moderns, whose programme he described as a "reasonable combination" of the first two.

Their programme — which was recently adopted by the weekly *Ekonicheskaya Gazeta* — is widely believed to have been written by Deputy Prime Minister Leonid Abalkin, who will chair the three-day meeting.

Ahalkin, in charge of a state commission into economic reform, is becoming an increasingly influential adviser and was brought into the government over the summer to oversee efforts to put the economy back on its feet.

Turakov said of the radical-modern programme: "This choice is the most preferable — that is the conclusion of the scientists and economists who were invited to study the materials which will be discussed at the

country is in the midst of a major economic crisis.

The radical-moderns want to cut state price controls gradually while setting up a system of social security to ensure people are not harmed by the change to a more free-market system, one of whose side-effects would be increased inflation.

"(Their measures) would give a powerful impulse for the creation of a consumer market while creating the means to regulate the rest of the economy.

The programme will have a strong influence on the shape of the next five-year economic plan — starting in 1991 — which Kremlin advisers say is vital for the future of Gorbachev's perestroika programme of reforms.

Turakov's article was highly unusual in that it gave an objective summary of the two lesser-favoured camps, a sign the government does not want to close off any avenue which could help the economy.

The conservatives favour gradual changes which would try to avoid conflicts and harmful side-effects and would not harm what Turakov called weak and inefficient enterprises.

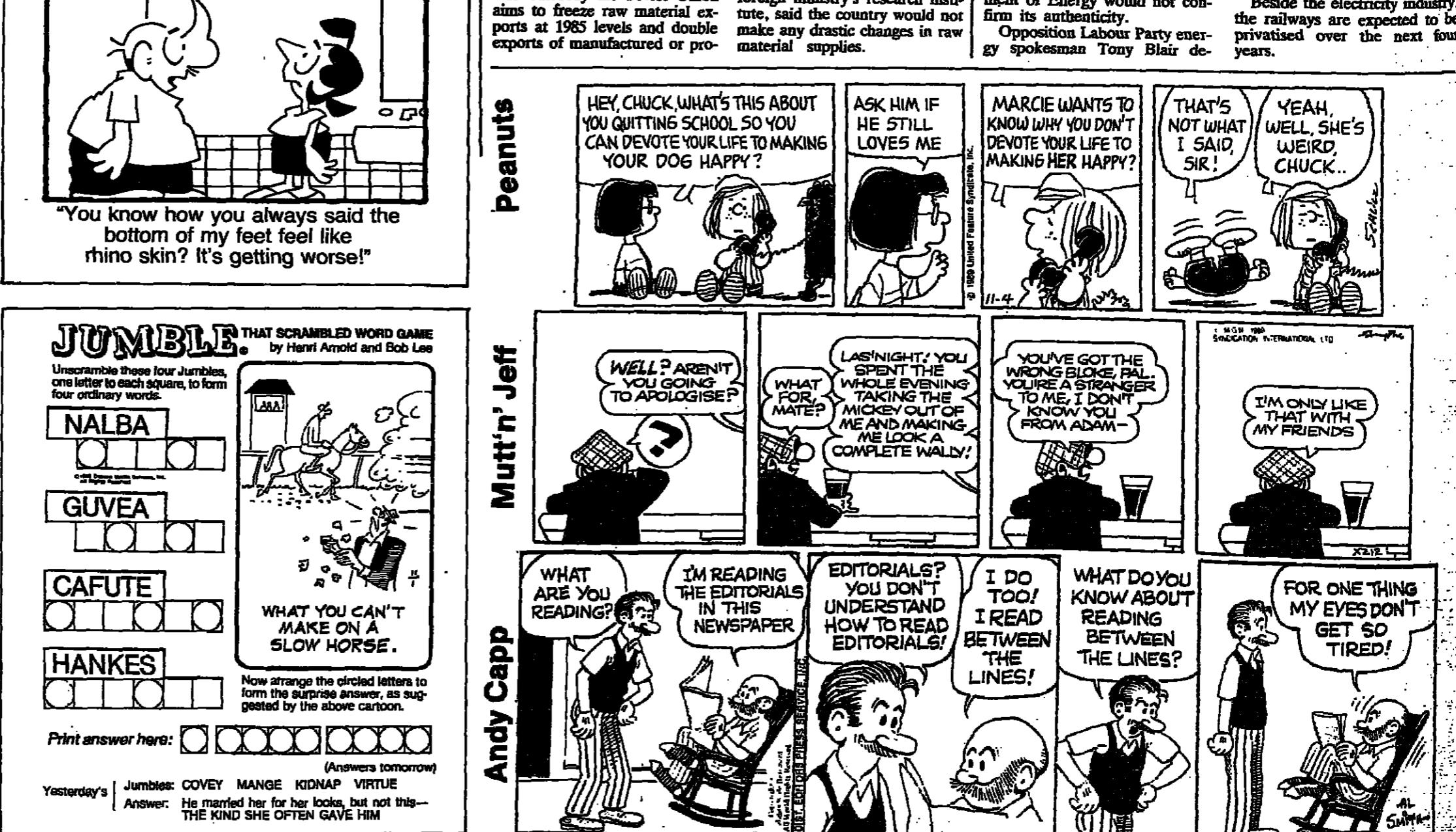
The radicals want to break up the centrally-controlled planned economy in a series of short, sharp shocks, cutting government investment and subsidies in an attempt to introduce a free-market system as quickly as possible.

A senior Soviet trade official said Saturday the Soviet Union aims to freeze raw material exports at 1985 levels and double exports of manufactured or processed goods by the year 2000.

"By the turn of the century half of Soviet exports must be processed goods... the current level is between 25 and 30 per cent," Ivan Ivanov, deputy head of the Soviet Foreign Economic Commission, told a news conference.

"Our long-term aim is to cut exports of raw materials. We would like to freeze raw material exports at 1985 levels, but this depends on how successful exports of Soviet products are," he said.

Ivanov was speaking at the end of a two-day conference on how to improve the performance of Soviet exports, stagnating like the rest of the country's economy.



Sports

Frenchmen finish 1,2 in wheelchair marathon

OITA, Japan (AP) — Moostapha Badik of France was the fastest to speed his wheelchair the full 42.195 kilometres (26.1 miles) in the Oita International wheelchair marathon Sunday, edging compatriot Philippe Couprie by .03 seconds.

The 24-year-old Badik, racing for the first time in Japan, started from the front of the Oita prefectural office and sped through the streets of Oita, in southern Japan. He crossed the finish line at the Oita municipal track and field in one hour, 40 minutes 45 seconds.

Follow countryman Couprie, 27, came in after one hour, 40 minutes 48 seconds.

Third finisher was Bosse Lindkvist of Sweden in 1:43.19, followed by compatriot Lars Lofstrom, who was clocked at 1:43.19.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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WHO NEEDS ACES?

North-South vulnerable. East

NORTH
♦ K 8 2
♦ A K Q 7 6
♦ Q 9
♦ K 9 4

WEST
♦ A 5 3
♦ J 8 5 4 2
♦ J 10 9 3
♦ J 10 8 3 5
♦ A 6 4 3
♦ 10
♦ 8 6 3

SOUTH
♦ J 10 7 4
♦ Void
♦ K 7 2
♦ A Q 3 7 5 2

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦
Pass 3 ♦ Pass 3 ♦
Pass 4 ♦ Pass 5 ♦
Pass 6 ♦ Pass 6 ♦
Pass
Opening lead: Ten of ♦
It is surprising how often you can make a slam off two cashing aces when each defender holds one of them. The reason is that neither defender imagines the declarer side is insane enough to get to slam missing two aces, so neither credits partner with an ace and defends accordingly. This hand is from the 1988

Japan's Yukifumi Yamamoto came in fifth in 1:43.21, followed by Austrian George Schratenecker who was timed at 1:43.50.

Janette Jansen of the Netherlands won the women's full-marathon in 1:48.45, followed by American Mary Thompson in 2:29.07.

Raja Singh of Singapore captured the half-marathon, covering the 21.0975 kilometres in 52 minutes, 58 seconds, far ahead of compatriot See Chong Tang who was clocked at 54.07.

The top, two finishers in the half-marathon improved the meet record, breaking the previous time of 55.22 set by Mexico's Manuel Casas in 1988.

Mexico's Cornelio Ordaz Nunez was third at 56.03, followed by South Korea's Yu Hee-Sang at 56.05.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1989

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Three more squares in the early A.M. make this a day when you can serve yourself best by studying how effective you are being in doing daily chores and duties and ways of having a better campaign of action.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Accept all kinds of interesting friends into your social group. Brighten your home with new furnishings and flowers.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Avoid the temptation to lead money to a friend. A businessman will bring you a new proposition that has great potential.

GEMINI: (May 22 to June 21) Don't let outspoken friends hurt your feelings. Arguments at home should not be permitted to occur or tension arises.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Friendly discussions with another person will add to your assets. You need more expert data for your business.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Bright and brilliant friends can bolster your spirits today. Invite friends you are sure you can handle into your home.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) An influential couple should now become your friends. Investigate carefully men who come with a business proposition.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You need to curb your tendency to be extravagant. Spending more time at home enhances harmony there.

business ideas different from those you have used.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Get plans for better business relations from those under your roof. A younger person will help you with money matters.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Keep conditions happy and lively at your home.

Ask advice of those older or more experienced than you are.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You would be wise to entertain friends at home. Don't fight with a friend over the performance of his duties.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Don't let outspoken friends hurt your feelings. Arguments at home should not be permitted to occur or tension arises.

WIMBLEDON: (February 20 to March 20) You need to curb your tendency to be extravagant. Spending more time at home enhances harmony there.

PARIS (R): Boris Becker overcame an irascible John McEnroe in almost three hours of breath-taking tennis Saturday to reach the final of the \$1.26-million Paris Open where he meets Stefan Edberg of Sweden.

Becker, just back on the grand prix circuit after almost two months out with knee injuries, announces that he was back in business on Friday after a second nerve-wracking victory in a third set tiebreak over a player ranked much lower.

He proved the point against a McEnroe at his brilliant best.

Becker had to be at the top of his game to win, and he was.

He showed nerves of steel in

refusing to be upset by McEnroe's tantrums, which included a complaint that Becker was disturbing him by coughing before he served.

Becker beats McEnroe to reach Paris final with Edberg

JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1989 7

"I'm disappointed I lost because I felt I could win this match," McEnroe said. "But it's exciting to be part of a match like that."

But McEnroe criticised Becker over the coughing. "I don't say he's doing it on purpose but it's become part of his game. There's no place for it in a match. I just hope he goes to a doctor to rectify the problem."

A happy Becker was content to dismiss McEnroe's behaviour lightly. "He's been like that for 10 years," he said. "He's better than he was but not the way he

should be.

"I have difficulty understanding what he's doing on court and why he's doing it. But it's part of John McEnroe. If you asked him to be completely quiet, he probably wouldn't play that sort of tennis."

"Every time we play we have close matches. I know I have to play great to beat him and he knows the same thing."

McEnroe complained several times about line calls, mimicked Becker's cough and accused that West German of playing too slowly.

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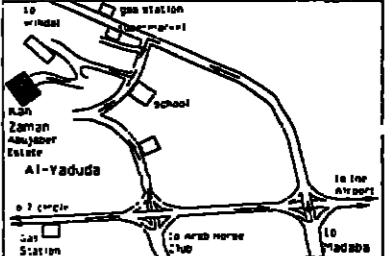
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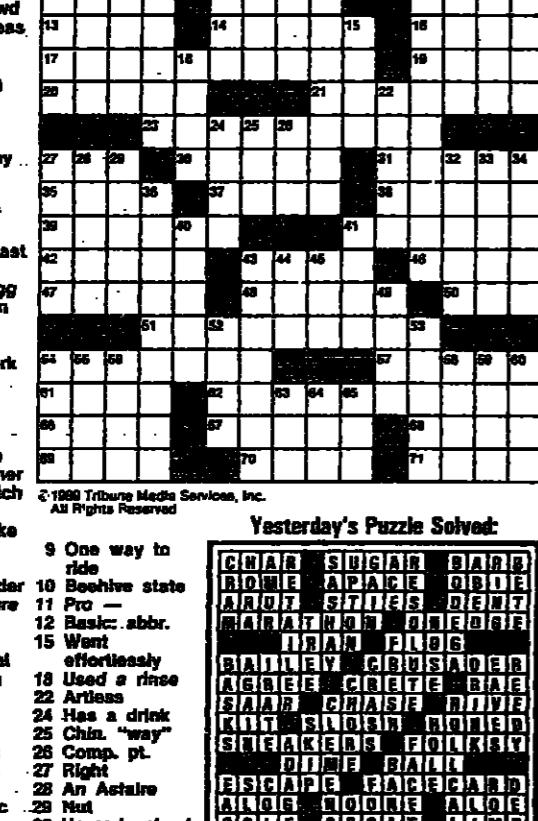
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THE Daily Crossword

by James Barrick



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS	SUGAR	BAK	ROAST	STILES	SHAM
1 Animal crowd	2	3	4	5	6
5 Like two peas	6	7	8	9	10
9 Sheep	11	12	13	14	15
13 Diva's song	16	17	18	19	20
14 Izrael	21	22	23	24	25
15 Type style:	26	27	28	29	30
17 Occurring by chance	31	32	33	34	35
19 Receipts	36	37	38	39	40
20 Suspicious	41	42	43	44	45
21 Fabric	46	47	48	49	50
23 Time just past	51	52	53	54	55
25 Chair	56	57	58	59	60
26 Razz or Rigg	61	62	63	64	65
27 Construction pieces	66	67	68	69	70
35 Pindarics	71	72	73	74	75
37 Rhymed work	76	77	78	79	80
38 Esteem	81	82	83	84	85
39 Time out	86	87	88	89	90
41 Half score	91	92	93	94	95
43 Camp	96	97	98	99	100
45 Grow together	101	102	103	104	105
47 Vladimir Hlych	106	107	108	109	110
48 Ulyanov	111	112	113	114	115
49 Practical joke	116	117	118	119	120
50 John —	121	122	123	124	125
51 Passes	126	127	128	129	130
52 Central builder	131	132	133	134	135
53 A small measure	136	137	138	139	140
55 Learner	141	142	143	144	145
57 Spoken	146	147	148	149	150
62 Local official	151	152	153	154	155
66 Holy Roman emperor	156	157	158	159	160
67 Escape	161	162	163	164	165
68 Eccentrics	166	167	168	169	170
69 Eccentric	171	172	173	174	175
70 Getz or Kenton	176	177	178	179	180
71 Silver fabric	181	182	183	184	185
DOWN	1	2	3	4	5
1 Call out	6	7	8	9	10
2 Two people	11	12	13	14	15
3 Pier base	16	17	18	19	20
4 Cranberry's cousin	21	22	23	24	25
5 "Cakes and —"	26	27	28	29	30
6 Criticize	31	32	33	34	35
7 Cheeky	36	37	38	39	40
8 Family tree	41	42	43	44	45
9 Family angry	46	47	48	49	50
10 Rather	51	52	53	54	55

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9,000 East Germans reach West

Thousands more expected to follow

MARKTREDWITZ, West Germany (R) — East Germans flooded into West Germany in record numbers Sunday, causing long traffic jams at the Czechoslovak border and prompting a frantic search for emergency housing.

A long queue of cars built up at the Czechoslovak-West German frontier in the chilly morning hours as East Germans converged on the sleepy border crossing at Schirnberg, just east of Marktredwitz in Bavaria.

Border police counted about 9,000 new arrivals in the 24 hours up to 4 a.m. and expected about 3,000 more to come in special trains Sunday.

Police said the mass exodus, the biggest of four refugee waves since early September, had already filled all 6,500 beds prepared in emergency centres. "For the past few hours, we've been doing nothing but look for more space," a spokesman said.

The federal border guards and the army had already put aside another 2,000 beds and army barracks around the country were being checked for further capacity.

It was not clear how many East Germans would hop into their cars and drive across Czechoslovakia once they realised they could now legally cross there into West Germany.

Torsten Steib, 21, a passenger on one of the West German "freedom trains" from Prague, said: "When people in East Germany hear the border is open, even more will come here."

A woman from Dresden who had travelled to Prague to register at Bonn's embassy — a step no longer necessary — expressed a commonly found scepticism about East Berlin's sudden liberalisation.

"I heard (that the border was open), but I couldn't imagine that it was true," she said.

East Germans began crossing into West Germany Saturday by

train, bus and car after Czechoslovakia, the only country for which East Germans require no visa, lifted its border controls by agreement with East Berlin.

Most had come via West German's embassy in Prague, which they had filled to overflowing in a bid to go to the West. A further 596 East Germans arrived over the past 24 hours from Hungary, the first country to open its borders for them.

Because they still need visas to enter Hungary, that route is now less attractive to would-be emigrants than the road through hard-line Czechoslovakia.

Steib and his fiancee Manja Kamzol, 18, had travelled from East Berlin to Prague by train Friday night, expecting to join other refugees in the West German embassy. The next day they were on their way.

"We want to live a good life now while we are young," Kamzol said. "Regardless of what happens with the reforms we are not going back now. We are staying here."

Few East Germans had any

thing good to say about their country's new leader, Egon Krenz, whose promises of reforms after replacing hardline leader Erich Honecker last month have failed to stop the mass flight.

"This exodus will continue as long as Krenz is in power," said Walter Kolbow, a young father from near Magdeburg, at Marktredwitz Station. "You can read (about reform) in the papers now but it's just talk and very little will come of it."

About 200 of the town's 18,000 inhabitants were at Marktredwitz Station to greet the arrivals, who automatically receive West German citizenship.

Red Cross workers handed out hot lunches and baby food during an hour-long stop before the trains continued to reception centres throughout West Germany.

More than 173,000 East Germans have fled to West Germany this year, including 100,000 legal immigrants. Most of the others came through Hungary or via West German embassies in Prague and Warsaw.



East Germans arrive in Prague Wednesday after travel restrictions were lifted.

Column

Witness ignores cries for help

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A tavern manager said he ignored cries for help from a woman who was gang-raped by as many as 11 men because his bar was closed and he didn't want to get involved. The woman, 21, told police she was gang-raped and beaten by 10 or 11 men about 3 a.m. in the run-down working-class neighbourhood. She was treated for rape and numerous cuts and bruises at a hospital and then released. "She came banging on the door, she was screaming and bawling," Willie Johnson, manager of the Shangri-La Lounge, told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"She was pulling on the bars of the door. I told her to go away. A guy picked her up and took her back behind the alley." Asked what he did then, Johnson replied: "I didn't do anything. It might have been a set up for me." Johnson's wife, Ernestine, who owns the tavern, agreed with her husband's decision to do nothing. Ernestine Johnson had not been aware of the attack while it was in progress. "In this business, when you're in a cash business, you can't trust anybody," Ernestine Johnson said.

Residents said Perumal had asked the central government to send troops to quell the Tigers.

The Tigers launched early morning sea-and-land attacks and pounded the camps with machinegun and artillery fire.

"People said they saw some attackers come in boats," an Akkaraipattu resident said.

Security sources said some EPRLF men killed, belonged to the Tamil National Army (TNA), a private militia formed to fight the Tigers.

Fonda's daughter to do community service

NEW YORK (AP) — A judge ordered Vanessa Vadim, daughter of actress Jane Fonda, to do three days of community service for interfering with police when they arrested her boyfriend last month on drug charges. Manhattan criminal court Judge Judy Kluge adjourned the case Friday and told Ms. Vadim that if she does the community service as required and stays out of trouble for the next six months, the complaint will be dismissed.

District Attorney Paul Sheehan said an agreement would be worked out within the week on whether Vadim will do the community service in New York or in Providence, Rhode Island, where she is a student at Brown University.

Ms. Vadim, 21, was arrested Oct. 6 on Manhattan's Lower East Side, where her boyfriend, New York University student Thomas Feagel, was allegedly buying heroin. As police seized Feagel, Ms. Vadim reportedly got between him and a policeman and said, "If you're going to arrest him, you have to arrest me." Police charged her with obstructing government administration, disorderly conduct and loitering.

The police complaint alleged that she tried to prevent Feagel's arrest by "intimidation, physical force and interference."

Brooklyn grows them bigger

NEW YORK (AP) — A 1.88-inch (4.8 centimetre) cockroach found in a Brooklyn apartment defeated entries from Texas and Florida to be declared the biggest specimen of its genus for this year. The roach was given the award posthumously, having been dead for several weeks.

However, the man who found the Periplaneta Americana in his home, Peter Roman, won \$1,000 and a lifetime supply of roach killer from Combat Roach Control System.

"I'm sure he'll be very happy," said Barry Glass, president of Big Apple Pest Control, who accepted the award for an absent Roman.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	9	14	Cloudy
ATHENS	12	24	Cloudy
BAHRAIN	22	22	Cloudy
BANGKOK	24	25	Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	12	23	Cloudy
CARDO	17	23	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	9	12	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	9	12	Cloudy
GENEVA	6	13	Rain
HONG KONG	24	25	Cloudy
ISTANBUL	10	20	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	23	23	Cloudy
MADRID	9	13	Cloudy
MECCA	23	37	Cloudy
MONTRAL	-1	18	Cloudy
MOSCOW	9	26	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	17	32	Cloudy
NEW YORK	0	34	Rain
PARIS	6	13	Cloudy
ROTORUA	14	57	Cloudy
SINGAPORE	15	59	Cloudy
TOKYO	12	54	Cloudy
VIENNA	8	14	Cloudy

X—Indicates missing information

Lithuanians not likely to vote immediately to leave S. Union

by the three Baltic republics for more independence from Moscow.

However, it also looks likely to step up pressure for passage of similar measures in neighbouring Estonia and Latvia, adding to alarm in the Kremlin at a wave of nationalism and separation sweeping the region.

Under its provisions, a referendum can be called on any issue at the request of half the members of the republic's parliament, or if supported by signatures from 300,000 people — around one-tenth of the population.

Largely under pressure from Sajudis, which commands the overwhelming support of Lithuanians, the local parliament has pushed plans for economic autonomy and declared the republic's occupation on full independence.

U.N. seeks meeting of Nicaraguan rivals

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The U.N. secretary general has said the differences between the Nicaraguan government and the contra rebels are so great that a meeting between both sides should not be delayed, diplomats said.

The United Nations confirmed that a meeting between the Sandinista government and the U.S.-backed rebels was called off for Monday but said it was seeking a session at a later date, a spokesman said.

According to diplomats, Javier Perez de Cuellar, briefing the Security Council late Friday, also said that if the United Nations had had its proposed peacekeeping operation in place in Central America, the situation in Nicaragua might not have deteriorated so quickly.

The secretary general has asked the council to approve a 625-person task force to control cross-border movements of arms, such as clandestine assistance to the contras inside Nicaragua and to guerrillas fighting the government of El Salvador.

"One man has been positively identified. We will release his name as soon as the family has been notified," a Unocal press release said.

Sixty-four Thais and 33 foreigners were aboard the Seacrest which rolled over after typhoon Gay hit the Gulf of Thailand Friday.

Unocal said exploration of the hull revealed the crew berthing area to be so badly damaged that it "leads us to believe there is

little or no air in the living quarters, making it unlikely there are any survivors trapped there."

Unocal and Thai navy search teams fanned out over the Gulf in boats, planes and helicopters for a second day looking for other crewmembers of the Seacrest as well as a more than 140 Thai fisherman missing after the storm abated Saturday.

Thai officials said Sunday morning that a total of 16 Thai fishermen had been hauled out of the gulf since the powerful storm, a rarity in the area.

Unocal said their remotely operated submersible discovered the top 15 metres of the vessel's derrick and one of its massive cranes were gone.

"The remotely operated vehicle also determined that none of the Seacrest's liferafts or boats is now on board," Unocal said.

The inverted hull was three metres out of the water, and expected to continue sinking slowly. Currents around the Seacrest were hindering underwater operations, Unocal said.

The search was expanded northwards beyond the 1,500-square kilometre area combed by boats and helicopters Saturday, the Thai navy said.

Rescue work was broken off in the first hour of Sunday because of darkness and dangerous seas churned by typhoon Gay Friday and Saturday. It resumed after dawn.

Gay crossed the southern Thai isthmus into the Andaman Sea Saturday and dissipated to tropical storm.

Unocal Thailand said its natural gas production in the Gulf of Thailand was expected to return to normal Sunday.

2 bodies sighted in capsized gas-drilling ship off Thailand

BANGKOK (R) — Two bodies were discovered in the sinking hull of the capsized gas-drilling ship Seacrest in the Gulf of Thailand Sunday, the ship's owner said.

Unocal Thailand said a video recording made by a remotely operated submersible found two bodies in the 4,400 tonne ship's badly damaged living quarters.

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